



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Tucson Field Office
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Tucson, AZ 85756
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February 24, 2015

In Reply Refer To:
9214 (G020)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Tucson Field Office is pleased to announce the availability of the Keystone Peak Prescribed Fire Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) DOI-BLM-AZ-G020-2015-0009-EA and the unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). These documents analyze a proposed prescribed fire in the vicinity of Keystone Peak, located approximately 10 miles west of the community of Green Valley in Pima County, Arizona.

The proposed action analyzed by the draft EA is to utilize prescribed fire on 877 acres of BLM-administered public lands, 851 acres of Arizona State Trust lands and 942 acres of private lands. The proposed treatment will be a broadcast burn implemented with ground/hand ignition tools and techniques. The prescribed fire is intended to improve watershed conditions and wildlife habitat by converting shrub-invaded grassland to more open, denser stands of mid- and tall-statured perennial native grass species.

As an interested party, you are receiving this notification because (a) you have expressed interest in the BLM's fuels management and grassland stewardship program or (b) you operate or maintain a facility at the Keystone Peak communication site.

The 30-day public comment period for the EA and unsigned FONSI will begin February 25 and end March 30, 2015. The BLM will consider all substantive comments received during this period. The BLM's National Environmental Policy Act handbook provides guidance on formulating substantive comments. This and other NEPA-related references can be found at <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/info/nepa.html>.

Substantive comments do one or more of the following:

- Question, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of information in the EA.
- Question, with reasonable basis, the adequacy of, methodology for, or assumptions used for the environmental analysis.
- Present new information relevant to the analysis.
- Present reasonable alternatives other than those analyzed in the EA.
- Cause changes or revisions in one or more of the alternatives.

The draft EA and unsigned FONSI are available for public review at the BLM Tucson Field Office, 3201 East Universal Way Tucson, Arizona 85756. These documents are also available for review and comment on the web at <http://bit.ly/KeystoneEA>. A hard copy is available upon request. At the end of the 30-day review and comment period, all substantive comments will be evaluated and analyzed by a BLM interdisciplinary team. Appropriate adjustments to the Draft EA and unsigned FONSI will be completed and a Final EA, signed FONSI, and Decision Record will be issued at a future date.

Questions may be directed to Amy Markstein, Tucson Field Office Planning and Environmental Specialist, at 520-258-7231 or by email at amarkstein@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bruce Sillitoe
Acting Tucson Field Manager